



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 26 March 2008

Current Nationwide



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- According to CNN, of the 28,000 commercial airline flights that take to the skies on an average day in the United States, fewer than one percent are protected by on-board, armed federal air marshals, a nationwide CNN investigation has found. That means that a terrorist or other criminal bent on taking over an aircraft would be confronted by a trained air marshal on as few as 280 daily flights. (See item [13](#))
- The Associated Press reports a security lapse made it possible for unwelcome strangers to see personal photos posted on Facebook Inc.'s popular online hangout, circumventing a recent upgrade to the Web site's privacy controls. (See item [26](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

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Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

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## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *March 25, Casper Star-Tribune* – (Wyoming) **Pipeline rupture ignites blaze.** A 16-inch natural gas pipeline ruptured around 9:30 a.m. Monday about 14 miles north of Douglas, Wyoming, resulting in an intense fire that shot flames 100 feet into the air before the blaze was brought under control. Once emergency responders closed off the gas line, the fire spewed volumes of thick, black smoke. Denver-based line owner, DCP Midstream Partners, has sent crews to investigate the cause of the rupture. The investigation could take weeks, said a company spokesperson, but should help the

company prevent future incidents. She said repairs could be made within the next several days, and the lost gas volume is believed to be “minimal or inconsequential” to the company.

Source:

<http://www.casperstartribune.net/articles/2008/03/25/news/wyoming/e0c7affd84871f8287257416007cefef.txt>

2. *March 23, KCBS AM740 San Francisco* – (California) **Cargo ships failing oil spill drill.** Too many cargo ships operating in California fail very simple oil spill tests, according to an extensive review by the Sacramento Bee. The first thing the crew is required to do is pick up a telephone, but many do not. During unannounced drills, crews are required to make four phone calls within 30 minutes of an oil spill. The first is to the ship’s owner, the second to its cleanup contractor, the third to the California Office of Emergency Services, and lastly they must call a national spill-reporting agency. The Bee, in a Public Records Act review, found 21 of 164 ships tested – or about one in eight – failed the test. The Cosco Busan, which dumped more than 50 thousand gallons of fuel oil into the Bay in November, also failed to make the required calls. “The rate of failure has varied quite a bit as well,” said the executive director of the California Coastkeeper Alliance, a consortium of environmental watchdog groups. “I think when we see two or three years of really consistent numbers, that’s when we can start to feel a little bit more comfortable.”

Source: <http://www.kcbs.com/pages/1872091.php>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

Nothing to Report

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

3. *March 25, WNBC 4 New York* – (New York) **Malfunctioning pump shuts down Indian Point reactor.** A reactor at the Indian Point nuclear power plant has begun a refueling outage two days early after a malfunctioning pump forced a shutdown. Federal regulators said the unplanned shutdown at Indian Point Unit 2 will not affect the power plant’s safety rating. The malfunctioning pump was in the non-nuclear part of the unit. A U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesperson said the reactor had “already reduced power to 94 percent” as it prepared for its scheduled maintenance outage. The pump that malfunctioned directs Hudson River water to the plant’s four steam generators. Entergy Nuclear is investigating why the pump failed.

Source: <http://www.wnbc.com/news/15699095/detail.html?rss=ny&psp=news>

4. *March 24, WQRF 39 Rockford* – (Illinois) **Outage at Byron nuclear power plant.** Unit 1 at the Byron, Illinois, nuclear power plant went offline Sunday night to begin a scheduled refueling and maintenance outage. Unit 2 will continue to supply electricity to

Exelon customers.

Source: <http://mystateline.com/content/fulltext/?cid=8286>

5. *March 24, Taunton Daily Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Clean-up to resume at Norton landfill next month.** Cleanup at the radiologically-contaminated Shpack Landfill, Massachusetts, is set to resume in mid-April, following a winter break. The Army Corps of Engineers manager for the Shpack project said he expects the work to be finished by the end of September 2009. Through December, 14,865 cubic yards of contaminated material have been excavated from the site. “It goes to Energy Solutions in Utah,” the manager said. “They have a landfill specifically designed for radiological waste. It goes out by rail.” It is estimated that about 24,000 cubic yards of contaminated materials remain.

Source: <http://www.tauntongazette.com/homepage/x1059917872>

6. *March 22, New York Daily News* – (New York) **Coked-up nuke guards suspended at Indian Point power plant.** Two Indian Point nuclear power plant security guards have been suspended for coming to work with cocaine in their systems, said a spokesperson for plant owner Entergy Nuclear. The workers’ apparent drug use did not compromise safety at the plant, said a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesperson. The security guards – employed by Entergy – are on paid leave for two weeks. The company fires employees who fail drug tests twice, said the company spokesperson. One guard was tested for drugs after leaving her post unexpectedly and failing to respond when commanders radioed her on March 19; she was found sick in a bathroom, he said. The other guard was tested Thursday because he was returning from an absence of more than 29 days; he had been on military leave, according to plant officials. The NRC is “satisfied with how the company is handling the situation,” said the agency’s spokesperson.

Source: [http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ny\\_crime/2008/03/22/2008-03-22\\_cokedup\\_nuke\\_guards\\_suspended\\_at\\_indian.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ny_crime/2008/03/22/2008-03-22_cokedup_nuke_guards_suspended_at_indian.html)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

7. *March 24, Defense News* – (National) **U.S. Navy ends ERGM funding.** The U.S. Navy has stopped funding Raytheon’s extended range guided munition (ERGM), effectively killing the 12-year-old program. The end comes after the Navy spent more than \$600 million on unsuccessful efforts by Raytheon to produce a precision munition that could be fired from a ship’s five-inch gun and then fly, guided by satellites, to a target about 50 miles away. ERGM failed a series of test firings in February, according to industry sources. A Navy spokesperson said the Navy plans to study a variety of “technological solutions” to take the place of the ERGM, which was intended to provide long-range fire from the sea to support Marines ashore. One alternative is Alliant Techsystems’ ballistic trajectory extended range munition, which is similar to ERGM. But it, too, has experienced serious problems in testing.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3442752&c=AME&s=SEA>

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

8. *March 25, Reuters* – (National) **Charges laid in alleged nationwide mortgage scam.** U.S. officials said on Monday that they had charged 19 people with targeting desperate homeowners facing foreclosure and stealing at least \$12.6 million through illegal mortgage and loan activities. At a news conference in Sacramento, a U.S. attorney said “Operation Homewrecker” investigated one of the largest mortgage frauds ever probed by the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service. Sealed indictments were filed March 13 and February 28 against 19 people – including three licensed mortgage brokers – charged with cheating homeowners across the country out of their homes. The homeowners were conned into believing the scheme would save their homes, their equity and their credit. Instead, they lost their homes. In the fraud, homeowners agreed to pay rent to members of the ring who they thought would rescue them by covering their mortgages. Instead the owners lost title to their homes and the alleged fraudsters siphoned off any remaining equity by borrowing more money against the properties. The ring allegedly operated out of Southern California led by a 33-year-old La Habra resident and owner of Head Financial Services, who was arrested on Friday. Two of the defendants operated out of Phoenix, Arizona; one out of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and one out of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Two defendants worked as straw buyers who in most cases took over title to the homes, accepted “rental payments” from the true homeowners and failed to make the agreed-upon mortgage payments to the bank. The investigation shut down the ring in 2006 but as the investigation continues the number of victims and money stolen is expected to be higher, said the U.S. attorney.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20080325/us\\_nm/crime\\_foreclosures\\_dc;\\_ylt=AsQQqkKIPVKfFBKqIIOSjfkWIr0F](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20080325/us_nm/crime_foreclosures_dc;_ylt=AsQQqkKIPVKfFBKqIIOSjfkWIr0F)

9. *March 25, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **IRS issues dirty dozen list of scams.** From phishers and tax protesters to unscrupulous financial advisers, the Internal Revenue Service has to run all kinds of bad actors out of town. The agency recently issued its list of the top 12 tax scams. “There is no secret formula that can eliminate a person’s tax obligations,” an acting IRS commissioner said in announcing the list. “People should be wary of anyone peddling any of these scams.” Phishing tops the list. Tax rebates that are part of President Bush’s economic-stimulus package also are giving fraudsters an opportunity to bilk the unsuspecting. This scam centers on trying to convince people they will not get their rebates unless they hand over financial information. Tax protesters are another thorn in the IRS’s paw. These folks make so-called frivolous arguments about why they should not have to pay tax. Using one of these arguments can result in a \$5,000 penalty. New additions to the IRS frivolous-arguments list: objections to military spending, erroneous claims that taxes are owed only by those with a fiduciary relationship to the U.S., a nonexistent “Mariner’s Tax Deduction” and the misuse of the fuel-tax credit. Fuel-tax credits are a headache for the IRS. Farmers and others who use fuel for business – beyond getting to and from appointments – can be bona fide users of these credits. Other taxpayers, however, are trying to take advantage inappropriately. Hiding income offshore also was named as a top scam. Retirement plans can also be

venues for the unscrupulous. Specifically, the IRS is looking for taxpayers who avoid the limits on contributions to a Roth Individual Retirement Account.

Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120640899988461239.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120640899988461239.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

10. *March 25, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Companies claim to be in Wisconsin, offer nothing but scam.** Two companies claim they are based in Wisconsin, but neither has authority to sell loans there. In fact, no one can even track down an actual person or building associated with the companies. State regulatory agencies and the Wisconsin Better Business Bureau believe the companies are operating what is known as an advance-fee loan scam. That is when a company requires you to give money up front but the loan never materializes. The two companies, Oscar Financial Management and Madison Lending Group, advertise consumer loans. They tell people to wire them money and the loan will soon arrive. Unfortunately these scams are quite common, according to the Department of Financial Institutions. A lot of them are based out of Canada which means it is hard for U.S. authorities to catch the bad guys.

Source: <http://blogs.jsonline.com/piblog/archive/2008/03/25/companies-claim-to-be-in-wisconsin-offer-nothing-but-scam.aspx>

11. *March 24, WREX 13 Rockford* – (Illinois) **Scam targets senior ComEd customers.** Seniors are being targeted in the latest scam to hit the Rockford, Illinois, area. An official with Lifescape Community Services says, “Seniors usually have a little bit of a nest egg built up and they have very good credit.” Lifescape says someone pretending to be a ComEd employee calls saying they did not get the recipients’ last payment. They will ask for people’s next check number and routing number, saying if they do not get it, the customers’ power will be shut off. The person calling is, of course, not really from ComEd at all. Some people end up losing thousands of dollars because the scammers get into your checking account.

Source: <http://www.wrex.com/News/index.php?ID=27480>

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## **Transportation Sector**

12. *March 25, Associated Press* – (California) **747 blows 4 tires, aborts takeoff from LAX.** A jetliner carrying hundreds of passengers blew four tires while trying to take off at Los Angeles International Airport and got stranded on the runway, an official said Tuesday. None of the 232 passengers or crew on Qantas Flight 12 to Sydney, Australia, was hurt in the incident late Monday, an airport spokeswoman said. Flight operations at the airport were not expected to be affected. The pilot aborted takeoff after he noticed a warning light go off as he took the Boeing 747-400 down the runway at 11:05 p.m. local time, she said. The plane came to rest, stuck on an adjacent runway. Emergency personnel got everyone off the jet without incident.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23790476/>

13. *March 25, CNN* – (National) **Sources: Air marshals missing from almost all flights.**

Of the 28,000 commercial airline flights that take to the skies on an average day in the United States, fewer than 1 percent are protected by on-board, armed federal air marshals, a nationwide CNN investigation has found. That means that a terrorist or other criminal bent on taking over an aircraft would be confronted by a trained air marshal on as few as 280 daily flights, according to more than a dozen federal air marshals and pilots interviewed by CNN. The investigation found those low numbers even as the Transportation Security Administration in recent months has conducted tests in which it has been able to smuggle guns and bomb-making materials past airport security screeners. One pilot who crisscrosses the country and flies internationally told CNN he has not seen an air marshal on board one of his flights in six months. A federal law enforcement officer, who is not affiliated with the air marshal service and who travels in and out of Washington every week, said he has gone for months without seeing a marshal on board. Air marshals who spoke with CNN anonymously in order to protect their jobs are especially troubled by the lack of coverage on flights in and out of Washington and New York, the two cities targeted by the 9/11 hijackers. Sources inside the air marshal field offices told CNN that the program has been unable to stem the losses of trained air marshals since the program's numbers peaked in 2003 – and many of those who have left have not been replaced. The firearms training program for pilots is budgeted at \$25 million. And while it is popular among airline pilots, many complain that they have to spend as much as \$3,000 of their own money for lodging and meals when they take the course. By comparison, the federal air marshal budget this year is \$720 million. But air marshals who spoke with CNN question where the money is going when their numbers are dwindling

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/TRAVEL/03/25/siu.air.marshals/index.html>

14. *March 24, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Suspicious device found at rail yard.** The Union Pacific Railroad says it is investigating an incident on board a railcar that prompted a call out to the bomb squad. It started when workers noticed two males on an empty flatbed railcar. A detective and spokesman for the Salt Lake Police Department said, “One of the individuals had a camera around his neck, and after he saw the railroad worker, both suspects fled in a red vehicle parked on Warm Springs Road.” He says the workers then noticed something left behind. He said, “It appeared to be a battery with wires on it.” The bomb squad was called out. They rendered the device safe. The official says it turned out there were no explosive materials, but police still do not know what the pair were doing there. The Union Pacific will not comment except to say the Friday incident is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=2924042>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

15. *March 25, Progress-Index* – (Virginia) **Suspicious substance alarms officials.** City police in Colonial Heights, Virginia, responded to the municipal building Monday after a suspicious envelope containing a white, powdery substance was sent to the commissioner of the revenue's office. Police received the call at approximately 11 a.m., said a sergeant, and the building was evacuated soon thereafter. “As a precaution, city



hall has been evacuated and [hazardous materials personnel are] assisting now and they will go in,” he said. The Crater District hazmat teams – which came from Prince George County, Hopewell, Petersburg, Colonial Heights, and Fort Lee – removed the substance after conducting field tests to ensure its safety. The substance, which was identified as crushed acetaminophen, was turned over to the U.S. postal inspectors. The sergeant said the incident might have been a case of something shipped and crushed in the mail, and may not have been intentional.

Source: [http://www.progress-index.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19420196&BRD=2271&PAG=461&dept\\_id=462946&rfti=6](http://www.progress-index.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19420196&BRD=2271&PAG=461&dept_id=462946&rfti=6)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

16. *March 25, USA Today* – (National) **Beef recall case: Cattle abuse wasn’t a rare occurrence.** The abuse of non-ambulatory cattle at a California slaughterhouse has renewed calls for a ban on the slaughter of such animals, and newly released government records show such mishandling in past years was more than a rare occurrence. More than ten percent of the humane-slaughter violations issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the 18 months ended March 2004 detailed improper treatment of animals that could not walk – mostly cattle, says the Animal Welfare Institute, an animal-protection group. The finding, drawn from USDA records the institute recently received in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, is included in a report to be released today on humane-slaughter violations. It comes as the USDA steps up checks on conditions at the nation’s 900 slaughterhouses following abuses at Westland/Hallmark Meat, now at the heart of the biggest beef recall ever. The records were largely generated before the USDA in 2004 generally prohibited downed cattle from being slaughtered, as a protection against beef infected with mad cow disease getting into the food supply. Cattle that cannot walk are believed to be at higher risk of having mad cow disease. Cattle can be slaughtered if they are standing for an initial pre-slaughter inspection and then go down because a USDA veterinarian finds that they suffered a non-food-safety injury, such as a broken leg.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/food/2008-03-24-meat-recall-slaughter-ban\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/food/2008-03-24-meat-recall-slaughter-ban_N.htm)

17. *March 24, Associated Press* – (International) **Don’t just blame the chickens for flu.** Intensive rice farming and large duck populations – not the number of chickens raised – may be the best predictors of where bird flu might develop in Southeast Asia, according to researchers reviewing outbreaks in Vietnam and Thailand. About 140 million birds in Southeast Asia have been killed in recent years to prevent the H5N1 virus from spreading. Researchers are trying to understand what factors have contributed to continued outbreaks despite significant control efforts. By isolating those factors, policymakers can better target efforts to stem or prevent future outbreaks. For example, they could limit the movement of ducks into the rice paddies at certain times of the year, which would reduce the prospects of the virus being exchanged between domestic ducks and wild birds. Researchers reviewed three outbreaks in early 2004 through late 2005.

They looked at five variables: duck abundance, human population, chicken numbers, elevation, and rice cropping intensity. The researchers concluded that monitoring duck populations for H5N1 and tracking rice paddies by satellite were the best ways to predict where outbreaks were most likely to occur. They said that chickens are no longer a “highly significant predictor” of the presence of the H5N1 virus for Vietnam and Thailand. The outbreaks were most concentrated in regions where rice is cultivated two or three times a year. “Rice paddy fields are an important habitat of free-ranging ducks, but also for wild waterfowl exploiting the same food resource in the wintering season,” the researchers said. “Thus, they may form a critical risk factor in ... virus introduction, persistence and spread.” The researchers described the predictive power of their models as “moderate.” They also said that their work appeared to warrant development of maps in other Southeast Asian countries identifying those areas most susceptible to future bird flu outbreaks.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080324/ap\\_on\\_he\\_me/bird\\_flu\\_rice\\_fields;\\_ylt=AiV2U8Am8GxVLTfiQ5demMHVJRIF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080324/ap_on_he_me/bird_flu_rice_fields;_ylt=AiV2U8Am8GxVLTfiQ5demMHVJRIF)

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## **Water Sector**

18. *March 25, Associated Press* – (National) **No national strategy for dealing with drugs found in water.** Traces of 56 human and veterinary pharmaceuticals or their byproducts – like the active ingredients in medicines for pain, infection, high cholesterol, asthma, epilepsy, mental illness, and heart problems – have been detected in Philadelphia’s drinking water. Tens of millions of Americans drink water that has tested positive for minute concentrations of pharmaceuticals, and they do not even realize it, the Associated Press (AP) learned during a five-month investigation. Though U.S. waterways coast to coast are contaminated with residues of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, there is no national strategy to deal with them – no effective mandates to test, treat, limit, or even advise the public. The Environmental Protection Agency has launched a four-pronged approach: to identify the extent of the problem, to “identify what we don’t know and close the gap,” to take steps using existing science and regulatory tools, and finally, to increase dialogue and awareness with water providers and state and local agencies. When contacted directly by the AP, many water utilities confirmed whether they had tested for the presence of pharmaceuticals in their water. But federal agencies and industry groups declined to identify the cities and treatment plants where traces of pharmaceuticals had been found during independent studies, citing confidentiality concerns. Philadelphia has found more pharmaceuticals in its source and drinking waters than any of the other 61 big water providers surveyed by the AP. It tested for more drugs and byproducts than other utilities – a total of 72 – and it found 56, or three-quarters of those checked, in its drinking water. It found 63 – almost 90 percent of those checked – in its source waters. More study is planned.

Source:

<http://pantagraph.com/articles/2008/03/25/news/doc47e82f47b537c489399628.txt>

19. *March 24, Summit Daily News* – (Colorado) **Tree-spraying chemicals detected in**



**water.** The chemicals local towns and neighborhoods are spraying to prevent the spread of the pine beetle could be contaminating local water supplies, according to the Silverthorne/Dillon Joint Sewer Authority. Last May, employees at the Silverthorne treatment plant performed a toxicology test on water that had been treated and was on its way out into the Blue River. The routine test involved placing 20 minnows and 20 water fleas in a container of plant effluent and seeing how they did. After 48 hours, the minnows survived, but all 20 of the water fleas died. “We’d been doing these tests for 10 to 12 years,” the plant manager said. “And we’d never failed one.” The initial toxicology test did not identify any specific chemical, but it triggered increased monitoring and a series of more extensive investigation of the plant’s effluent. It was not until July that test results returned to normal, and it took that long to pinpoint the chemical culprit: carbaryl – an insecticide also known as Sevin. One of the three most commonly used pesticides in the U.S., carbaryl has been an agent of choice for the majority of those spraying Summit County’s lodgepoles to protect them from the pine beetles during the local beetle spraying season, which runs from May through July. As with other hazardous materials, it is illegal to dump the insecticide into the sewer system. At its peak, the concentration of carbaryl in the Silverthorne plant effluent was fairly small – not enough, once diluted in the river, to have an impact on wildlife, but the fact that it showed up at all concerns the plant manager. Stone flies, a common indicator of mountain stream water quality, are even more sensitive to carbaryl than the water fleas used in the toxicology test.

Source:

<http://www.summitdaily.com/article/20080324/NEWS/958907210/0/FRONTPAGE>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

20. *March 24, Asian News International* – (International) **TB poses greater epidemic threat than AIDS, warns expert.** A lack of focus on tuberculosis following the AIDS epidemic has made it a worse threat than AIDS, says a leading bioethicist at the Australian National University, warning that tuberculosis may once again cause the world’s deadliest epidemics if ignored. “Though cures have existed since the 1950s, TB is still the second leading infectious cause of mortality – a close runner up to AIDS,” he said. “One-third of the world population is infected with latent TB and 10 per cent of these are expected to develop active illness at some time in their lives,” he added. He also revealed that the development of TB medicine has been dormant as pharmaceutical companies are focusing more on making AIDS drugs. “While one-third of the world’s population carried some sort of TB and new drug-resistant strains have recently been identified, not much has been done to stop a global epidemic,” he said.

Source: <http://www.newkerala.com/one.php?action=fullnews&id=39105>

21. *March 24, WebMD Medical News* – (National) **FDA: No shortage of heparin.** Federal regulators say supplies of heparin, a widely used blood-thinning drug, have not been interrupted despite a third recall issued late last week. B. Braun Medical Inc. announced a recall last week of 23 lots of injectable heparin manufactured and distributed in the U.S. and Canada. It followed a recall in late February of Heparin in single and multiple

dose vials made by Baxter Healthcare Corp. B. Braun Medical supplies 10 -15 percent of the U.S. supply of injectable heparin, according to a company statement. Both Baxter and B. Braun Medical used ingredients from Scientific Protein Laboratories, which manufactured heparin ingredients in a factory in China. An active pharmaceutical ingredient produced at the plant is suspected of being the source of adverse reactions that prompted the recalls.

Source: <http://www.webmd.com/news/20080324/fda-no-shortage-of-heparin>

22. *March 24, WJBC AM1230 McLean* – (Illinois) **Health officials calling for better prevention of disease.** McLean County, Illinois, health officials are calling for more to be done at the state level to prevent diseases. Almost 2 million people die annually from chronic diseases such as cancer and heart disease, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Illinois Public Health Association says about 7 million chronic diseases were reported in 2003 in Illinois alone. McLean County's Health Department Director says the numbers are too high and must be cut. State lawmakers propose the creation of a task force to outline how state government could promote healthy habits and target at-risk groups. If approved, statewide recommendations would be submitted by 2010.

Source: [http://www.wjbc.com/wire2/news/04646\\_Disease-Prevention-WEB\\_154733.htm](http://www.wjbc.com/wire2/news/04646_Disease-Prevention-WEB_154733.htm)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

Nothing to Report

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

23. *March 24, Clanton Advertiser* – (Alabama) **Disaster drill set for tomorrow.** In Alabama, a disaster drill at Clanton Middle School is scheduled for Wednesday. Those involved include the Emergency Management Agency, school officials, and other agencies, including Clanton Police and Fire and the Chilton County Sheriff's Department. The reason for the drill is to develop a school-wide safety plan for the Chilton County School System. The drill will take place during the course of a normal school day and, upon completion of the drill, officials will look at the plan, revise it, and then eventually recommend it to the Chilton County Board of Education for approval. The plan will be adapted for each school's design.

Source: <http://www.clantonadvertiser.com/articles/2008/03/25/news/d-news.txt>

24. *March 25, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Audit uncovers breakdowns with bioterror response vehicles.** An emergency trailer deployed by Massachusetts state health officials to respond to a bioterrorism attack was missing for at least two days, and another trailer was loaded with untested and incomplete medical equipment, according to a new audit. The state auditor detailed a series of breakdowns in his review of a state-

run program to distribute emergency equipment across the state in case of a catastrophic bioterrorism incident. The audit of the \$28 million program, funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, found that local officials were not conducting training exercises with ten “mass casualty incident” trailers deployed by the state Department of Public Health. It also found that no operating plan had been developed to quickly activate and deploy the trailers in case of an attack. Officials with the Department of Public Health said they moved quickly to correct problems uncovered by the audit, which was conducted between July 2004 and December 2005. The findings were made public yesterday. Officials in the auditor’s office said the most disturbing lapse occurred when one “mass casualty” trailer was found to be missing for at least two days. During a spot check of a second mass casualty trailer, officials found that medical equipment had not even been unpacked from boxes, despite federal requirements that it be tested and prepared for emergency use.

Source:

<http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/general/view.bg?articleid=1082641&srvc=rss>

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## **Information Technology**

### **25. *March 25, InfoWorld* – (National) **Criminals target CA’s BrightStor in new attack.****

Just days after Microsoft warned of attacks targeting its Jet Database Engine software, cybercriminals have found a new program to attack: CA’s BrightStor ARCserve Backup. The new attack was reported Monday by Symantec, which said that a malicious Web page with a .cn domain was serving the attack code. By tricking an ARCserve user into visiting the Web site in question, attackers could leverage the flaw to install malicious software on a victim’s PC, Symantec said. A proof-of-concept example of the code was made public last week on the Milw0rm.com Web site. Symantec quickly predicted that it would likely be modified and used for attack. The flaw lies in the Unicenter DSM r11 List Control ATX ActiveX control, found in ARCserve Backup version 11.5, Symantec said. Other versions of the product may also be vulnerable, however. CA has not commented on the bug, so there is no indication when it might be patched. Symantec is advising users to turn off the buggy ActiveX control within the Windows Registry, something that should only be attempted by technologically savvy users.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/infoworld/20080325/tc\\_infoworld/96342;\\_ylt=AkymFMKQV5lzg8G4ITqQpnyDzdAF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/infoworld/20080325/tc_infoworld/96342;_ylt=AkymFMKQV5lzg8G4ITqQpnyDzdAF)

### **26. *March 24, Associated Press* – (International) **Security lapse exposes Facebook photos.****

A security lapse made it possible for unwelcome strangers to see personal photos posted on Facebook Inc.’s popular online hangout, circumventing a recent upgrade to the Web site’s privacy controls. The Associated Press verified the loophole Monday after receiving a tip from a Vancouver, Canada, computer technician, who began looking for security weaknesses last week after Facebook unveiled more ways for 67 million members to restrict access to their personal profiles. The added protections were not

enough to prevent the researcher from pulling up the most recent pictures posted by Facebook members and their friends, even if the privacy settings were set to restrict the audience to a select few. After being alerted Monday, a Facebook spokeswoman said the Palo Alto-based company would look into the problem. By late Monday, Facebook appeared to have closed the security hole.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23785561/>

27. *March 24, InfoWorld* – (International) **Most sites still hack-able.** The latest research report out of Web applications security specialist WhiteHat finds that most sites are still woefully vulnerable to hacker attacks. Just as in its previous research, WhiteHat estimates that some 90 percent of all pages are hack-able, the same figure that it has attached to several previous reports. Over the last two years that WhiteHat has been issuing its paper, the company has reported that the volume and variety of Web site attacks have in fact only continued to rise, with Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) tabbed as the next big thing by the experts this go round. According to the company, nine out of ten sites still have serious vulnerabilities, with an average of seven vulnerabilities per site. The leading forms of exploit that WhiteHat is observing on the Net have not budged much in recent months either, with classic techniques including SQL injection, buffer overflows, and cross-site scripting (XSS) leading the way. However, the company is predicting that CSRF threats will soon begin to multiply.

Source:

[http://weblog.infoworld.com/zeroday/archives/2008/03/web\\_site\\_hack\\_e.html?source=rss](http://weblog.infoworld.com/zeroday/archives/2008/03/web_site_hack_e.html?source=rss)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Communications Sector

Nothing to Report

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

28. *March 24, WSBTV 2 Atlanta* – (Alabama) **Man arrested after making bomb threats.** Authorities in Mobile, Alabama, arrested a man for making bomb threats against several businesses. The bomb threats were called in just after 3 p.m. Sunday and prompted the evacuation of a hotel and a Wal-Mart. A police spokesman said the 38-year-old man was arrested inside Mobile Infirmary West. Investigators searched his hotel room and found several suspicious devices, which were made safe. The suspect also had two ID cards,

one from Florida and the other from Georgia. Police said he could face charges including making terrorist's threats.

Source: <http://www.wsbtv.com/news/15691309/detail.html>

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

Nothing to Report

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## **Dams Sector**

29. *March 24, KSDK 5 Saint Louis* – (Missouri) **Geologist blames Eureka flooding on Valley Park levee; Corps experts disagree.** Calls for new levees along the Meramec River in Missouri continue to come in from citizens and city leaders. But some experts warn new levees will have a catastrophic impact up and down river. A nationally recognized geologist and researcher with Southern Illinois University in Carbondale believes the flooding in Eureka was a direct result of the new Valley Park levee. The St. Louis Army Corps of Engineers called his claim “ridiculous.” Valley Parks’ new \$49 million levee held back the raging waters of the Meramec River and, according to city officials, passed Mother Nature’s first major test. But the geologist believes residents upstream paid a price. The Corps’ chief engineer disagrees. “He’s wrong,” he said. “Flooding is caused by large rains. That is what we had here.” The engineer said the Corps’ data shows any impact upstream would have been less than a tenth of an inch. Source:

[http://www.ksdk.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=142848](http://www.ksdk.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=142848)

30. *March 24, Surprise Today* – (Arizona) **McMicken Dam replacement meetings set.** McMicken Dam in Surprise, Arizona, may be in line for reconstruction. The Flood Control District has identified the McMicken Dam project and the Wittmann Area Drainage Master Plan as its vital missions in protecting the lives and property of residents in the Northwest Valley. The McMicken Dam Project seeks to rehabilitate or replace the nine-mile earthen dam located within the city of Surprise. Originally built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the mid-1950s, McMicken Dam is one of the oldest flood control dams operated and maintained by the Flood Control District, and land subsidence and earth fissuring have been identified as two issues which directly affect the dam’s long-term ability to maintain flood protection. Both issues are a threat to the dam’s aging infrastructure.

Source:

[http://www.yourwestvalley.com/news/dam\\_2159\\_article.html/flood\\_district.html](http://www.yourwestvalley.com/news/dam_2159_article.html/flood_district.html)

31. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Army on leaking Ohio levee: No cause for alarm.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says a leaking levee in eastern Ohio is not in danger of failing, though it has seen an excessive amount of seepage. A colonel says last week’s rains and flooding damaged the levee in the Zoar area of Tuscarawas County. He

says the Corps hopes to have the problem stabilized within three days by laying blankets of gravel in the weak spots to hold back soil and reduce erosion.

Source: <http://www.wdtn.com/Global/story.asp?S=8060542>

32. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Evansville area flooding continues.** Water levels in flood-swollen Pigeon Creek have started falling, but forecasters say it could be several more days before things return to normal in parts of southwestern Indiana. The Ohio River in Evansville remains more than a foot above its flood stage of 42 feet, said a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Paducah, Kentucky. The river is expected to crest at 43.7 feet Monday, and should remain high for a few days after that. Flooding has already threatened several homes in Vanderburgh County. Residents of the Pleasant Ridge mobile home park, which has 194 homes, were asked to consider evacuating due to concern a breach might develop in the levee surrounding them. Water was about two feet from the top of the levee Friday afternoon. “We’re having some issues with sinkholes breaching the levee,” said the McCutchanville fire chief.

Source:

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080324/NEWS/803240381>

33. *March 24, WNCN 17 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Dams pose growing risk.** “We’ve had three or four dams that have failed” in the last year, said the chief of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resource’s (DENR) Land Quality Section. “They constantly fail all the time. Yes, sir. You can look fine on the outside but not be fine on the inside.” The dams that failed did not damage houses downstream or injure anyone, but they did cause problems. In one case, the North Carolina Department of Transportation had to close roads in Rowan County until problems with the 7.5-foot-tall Happy Lake Dam were stabilized, according to DENR records. As the years pass and population increases, some dams are becoming more dangerous because they are being used past their intended lifespan even as they are encircled by development, according to interviews with state dam-safety officials, industry groups, and an analysis by the Winston-Salem Journal of state dam-safety records. North Carolina has 15 inspectors to monitor more than 5,000 dams, many of them built more than 50 years ago for farm irrigation or by landowners who wanted a small lake on their property.

Source:

<http://www.nbc17.com/midatlantic/ncn/news.apx.-content-articles-NCN-2008-03-24-0024.html>

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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